

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 236943

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. GERMANY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS

ON DECEMBER 3, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (FRG) ANNOUNCED THAT CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL WILL VISIT PRAGUE ON DECEMBER 11-12 TO SIGN A TREATY WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS BY THE PRESS, THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT THE FRG HOPED THIS MOVE WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY AND BULGARIA AS WELL. (UNCLASSIFIED) BONN 18384, 12/3.

2. RESUMPTION OF KM 101 TALKS

USUN REPORTS THAT ISRAELI DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN TOLD UNEF GENERAL SIILASVUO THAT THE ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS WOULD BE ABLE TO RESUME MEETINGS AT KM 101 AND SUGGESTED THAT THE EGYPTIANS COULD PROPOSE STEPS FOR DISENGAGEMENT AND SEPARATION. DAYAN DID NOT EXCLUDE SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 236943

THE POSSIBILITY OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WEST BANK AND SUBSEQUENT DISENGAGEMENT. HE DID SAY THAT DISCUSSION OF A RETURN TO THE OCTOBER 22 LINES WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION AND ADDED THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE NOT

PREPARED TO TALK ABOUT ISSUES LIKE OPENING THE CANAL, WHICH SHOULD PROPERLY BE LEFT FOR THE PEACE CONFERENCE. THE UN HEADQUARTERS BELIEVES THERE IS SOME REASON FOR OPTIMISM, BUT DOES NOT EXPECT THE TALKS TO RESUME BEFORE DECEMBER 4. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 5315, 12/3 (EXDIS).

3. MORE FROM EGYPT

USINT CAIRO TOLD A US JOURNALIST THAT EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY INFORMED AMBASSADOR EILTS "IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS" THAT THE ISRAELIS WOULD HAVE TO BEGIN A DISENGAGEMENT PROCESS ON THE GROUND BEFORE THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. IN ADDITION, FAHMY DID NOT EXCLUDE RENEWED HOSTILITIES, BOTH "BEFORE AND DURING" THE PEACE CONFERENCE; AND EVADED AN ANSWER REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF HOSTILITIES BEFORE THE SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL. (SECRET) CAIRO 3747, 12/3 (EXDIS).

4. EGYPTIANS CONFIDENT OF OWN MILITARY ABILITY

USINT CAIRO REPORTS THE EGYPTIANS, INCLUDING DEFENSE MINISTER ISMAIL, BELIEVE THEY HAVE AT LEAST A SLIGHT MILITARY EDGE ON ISRAEL IN SPITE OF LOSSES SUFFERED IN THE OCTOBER WAR. FACTORS THEY CITE IN THEIR FAVOR INCLUDE: SOVIET REPLACEMENT OF LOST EQUIPMENT, AND A CAPABILITY TO HANDLE MODERN ARMS AND INFLICT SERIOUS LOSSES ON THE ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCES WHILE SUSTAINING AN ACCEPTABLE RATE OF CASUALTIES. THE EGYPTIANS ALSO FEEL THAT EGYPT'S MILITARY SITUATION ON THE WEST BANK FAVORS HER OVER ISRAEL, AND SHOULD FIGHTING RESUME THEY COULD INFLICT A MAJOR TACTICAL DEFEAT ON ISRAELI FORCES. (CONFIDENTIAL) CAIRO 3762, 12/3. KISSINGER

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